



## 2018 Sundowners AD Fire Crew

Los Padres National Forest



**APPLY HERE**

**APPLICATION DATES: OPEN: February 20, 2018 - CLOSE: February 27, 2018 @ 5:00 PM**

The U.S. Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest, is seeking highly motivated individuals interested in a job in wildland firefighting. This outreach is geared toward entry level applicants who would like to work for the Sundowner Handcrew on the Ojai Ranger District. Selected individuals will attend a paid two week training where they will learn the basics of wildland fire behavior, fireline safety, and teamwork. Upon completion of the training, participants will be available for fire assignments on the Los Padres National Forest and neighboring Forests. This is a paid "on call" position and work assignments will vary and will be dependent on the fire season.

To learn more, submit an interest sheet by selecting the following link: [Sundowners AD Fire Crew - Interest Sheet](#)

### Minimum Federal Qualification Requirements

1. Local residency or lodging must be within a one hour commute of work duty station located at 333 Casitas Pass Rd. Ventura, CA, due to extended work hours and driving regulations.
2. Must be 18 years of age or older.
3. Male citizens ages 18-26 born on or after January 1st must be registered with the Selective Service.
4. Must be in good mental and physical condition.
5. If selected, must be able to pass the Agency Work Capacity Test at the "Arduous" level.
6. If selected, must be able to pass the basic wildland firefighter training (training provided).

### Entry Level Casual Firefighter Position Description

This opportunity is an Administratively Determined (on-call for emergency work) position. The position does not have regular scheduled or guaranteed hours, but is based on the "emergency work" needs of the Los Padres National Forest. The Sundowner Handcrew may be activated when there is fire activity on the Forest, when there is a need to increase initial attack capacity on the Forest, or to be mobilized to an off-Forest incident. The crew reports to the Casitas Fire Station located at 3333 Casitas Pass Road. Crew members are rostered on a rotation and we try to work everyone that completes the initial training. However, this is dependent on availability and the skill needs of the crew. There is no guarantee that you will get called during the summer; however, the initial training does provide certification, knowledge, and skills that will enable participants to be competitive when applying for other wildland firefighter positions. In addition, those individuals that participate in the training will receive professional development such as resume building, application workshops, and networking opportunities during the two weeks. Participation in the training will allow access to professionals in the field of firefighting and other professions in the Forest Service. All these relationships can lead to a future job and career opportunities in the federal government.

If you obtain a position on the crew, duties may include the following:

- Participating in developmental training and physical fitness.
- Keeping yourself and your equipment fit for duty, and in response-ready condition.
- Traveling and working up to 14 days and possibly extended to 21 day assignments, including out of the state.
- Safely engaging in wildland fire suppression and emergency response operation activities. Wildland Firefighters can operate in close proximity to open flames, heat, and smoke.
- Hiking, carrying heavy equipment, operating fire apparatus, working near heavy machinery, and using hand tools such as shovels, Pulaskis, and chainsaws, sometimes in highly stressful situations.
- Some of the modes of transportation which can be expected on the job include hiking, commercial flights, boat rides, and mission flights on helicopters. May be tasked with operating vehicles both on and off road.
- Work can be physically demanding, requiring up to 16 hour for up to 14 days in a row without a day off.
- Exposure to primitive living conditions such as camping in wilderness areas away from electricity, showers, and with no cell phone reception for several days.
- Respect, flexibility, understanding, and teamwork are the foundation of any good firefighter and firefighting crew. Exhibiting these principles both on and off the clock is very important.

## Training Provided

### Firefighter Training and Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior

This introductory course is designed to train entry-level firefighters. Participants will be introduced to and gain knowledge of the basic incident management organization, firefighting techniques, suppression equipment, safety, strategy, and tactics along with fire behavior. Field exercises will be performed for valuable hands-on training. Other (training) subject matter will include:

- Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS) -Online course that must be completed prior to completion of Work Capacity Test
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) - An Introduction to Fire Shelter Training
- Basic Concepts of Wildland firefighting
- Preparedness, Incident Command Systems, and Resources
- Watch Out Situations and Look Outs, Communication, Escape Routes, and Safety Zones (LCES)
- Potential Hazards and Human Factors on the Fireline
- Fuel, Topography, and Weather
- Fire Behavior
- Transportation Safety
- Hand Tools
- Firing Devices
- Water Use
- Hazardous Materials
- Wildland Urban Interface
- Optional Knowledge Areas
- Performance Day Requirements
- Suppression, Communication, and Mop-up



Participants are required to pass the Agency Work Capacity Test at the “Arduous” level. This involves a 3-mile walk that must be completed wearing a 45-pound weight vest (provided) in less than 45 minutes.

A video is also included to learn more about what participants can do to prepare for the physical agility test:

[Click Here](#)

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## Training Dates

The Sundowner Handcrew Basic training will include an Orientation, Work Capacity Test, and 2 weeks of classroom and field instruction. If selected, these dates are all required and failure to attend will result in removal from the Sundowners program.

- **ORIENTATION**- Sunday, April 1, 2018 – Held from 9:00AM-12:00 @ **Casitas Fire Station** 3333 Casitas Pass Rd. Ventura, CA 93001
- **WORK CAPACITY TEST**- Sunday, April 8, 2018 – Held from 9:00AM – 12:00 @ **Casitas Fire Station** 3333 Casitas Pass Rd. Ventura, CA 93001
- **CLASSROOM TRAINING** - April 9-13, 2017 - Held from 8:00AM-4:30PM @ the **Oak View Resource Center** [555 Mahoney Ave. Oak View, CA 93002](#)
- **FIELD TRAINING** - April 16-20, 2017-Held from 8:00AM-4:30PM @ the **Casitas Fire Station** [3333 Casitas Pass Rd. Ventura, CA 93001](#)

## Mandatory Pre-Course Work

Complete the following pre-course work and bring it with you to the Orientation

- Completion Certificate of [IS-700.A: National Incident Management \(NIMS\) An Introduction](#)
  - Completion Certificate of [IS-100.B: Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100](#)
  - Possession of a valid **CPR/First Aid** card
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## Location

If you are selected and upon successful completion of the work capacity test, the classroom portion of the training will begin on Monday April 9th at 8:00AM and conclude on Friday April 13th at 4:30PM. Plan on being in class from 8:00am-4:30pm each day during the week. Class will be held at the Oak View Resource Center [555 Mahoney Ave. Oak View, CA 93002](#). Students will wear business casual attire in the classroom, such as jeans/slacks and collared shirts. Note taking materials are recommended, please pack your own lunch and bring water; these will NOT be provided. There will be a 30 minute lunch break, however there will not be enough time to travel to restaurants for food.

The field training will begin on Monday April 16th and conclude on Friday April 20th. The hours will remain the same. Individuals will need to report to the Casitas Fire Station [3333 Casitas Pass Rd. Ventura, CA 93001](#). The required attire for the field training is a **long sleeve plain shirt (black preferred) (no logos), a standard pair of work style jeans or pants, and a pair of Wildland firefighting boots with a Vibram sole, at least 8 inches in height** (Whites, Drews, Nicks recommended). Selected candidates will also be required to pack a lunch and water during the entire duration of the training. The following items will be required for the field training:

- 6 quart size water bottles
- 1 pair of leather work gloves
- 1 pair eye protection
- Long sleeve (Plain Black preferred) Shirt (no logo)
- Work style pants
- Wildland Firefighter boots



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## About the Forest

The Los Padres National Forest provides Southern California and the Central Coast Area with a variety of terrain, vegetation, and recreational settings. There are 1,257 miles of maintained trails which provide both day-use and extended backpacking opportunities. Much of the forest is roadless, remote and has 10 congressionally designated wilderness areas comprising approximately 875,000 acres, or about 48% of the forest. These include the Ventana, Silver Peak, Santa Lucia, Machesna, Garcia, San Rafael, Dick Smith, Sespe, Matilija and Chumash wildernesses. The forest is divided into five administrative units called "Ranger Districts" with district offices in King City, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, Ojai and Frazier Park.

## How to Apply

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To access the application: [Click Here](#)

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## For More Information

To learn more about this great opportunity, please view the website/s below:

Los Padres WWW site – <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/lpnf>

Los Padres Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/lospadresnationalforest>

Los Padres Twitter – @LosPadresNF

If you have questions, please contact:

**John Peakes**, Sundowner Handcrew Manager at 805-455-5910 Or

**Paul Hiott**, Sundowner Handcrew Manager at 805-746-5591

**Email:** LPFJobs@fs.fed.us



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